

OPTICAL WAVE GUIDE

Abstract of Disclosure

A lighting apparatus (10) includes a wave guide (14) formed from a translucent material. The wave guide has a top surface (30), a bottom surface (32) that has a pre-defined curvature, and at least one side surface (34) that receives light (40) injected therein. A plurality of microstructures (36) are arranged on selected areas of the bottom surface (32) of the wave guide (14). The plurality of microstructures (36) cooperates with the pre-defined curvature of the bottom surface (32) to scatter at least a portion of the light (40) injected into the at least one side surface (34). The scattered light (42) exits the wave guide (14) through the top surface (30). At least one light emitting diode (16) injects light (40) into the at least one side surface (34) of the wave guide (14). The scattered light (42) that exits the wave guide (14) forms at least one symbol viewable by an associated observer.

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FOOTNOTES